

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 STATE 203893

64

ORIGIN VO-03

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /004 R

66011

DRAFTED BY: SCA/VO:LVILLALOVOS

APPROVED BY: SCA/VO:LVILLALOVOS

----- 016177

O 170225Z AUG 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ROME IMMEDIATE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 203893

VISAS FOR REDDEN FROM SCA/VO

FOLLOWING REPEAT LONDON 12323 ACTION SECSTATE DTD 06 AUG

QTE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LONDON 12323

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SREF LE CVIS

SUBJECT: LEBANESE REFUGEES

REF: STATE 190983 LONDON 10850

1. DURING JULY, 1976 WE ISSUED 111 NONIMMIGRANT VISAS AND 11 IMMIGRANT VISAS TO LEBANESE. DURING THE PRE-CEEDING SIX MONTHS WE ISSUED A TOTAL OF 88 NONIMMIGRANT VISAS.

2. THE NUMBER OF LEBANESE DENIED NONIMMIGRANT VISAS IS UNKNOWN BECAUSE REFUSAL FIGURES ARE NOT MAINTAINED BY PLACE OF BIRTH OR NATIONALITY. A CONSENSUS OF THE STAFF INVOLVED IN NONIMMIGRANT VISA WORK ESTIMATE THAT DURING THE FIRST SEVEN MONTHS OF 1976 WE HAD REFUSED NON-IMMIGRANT VISAS TO APPROXIMATELY 100 LEBANESE. THERE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 STATE 203893

WERE NO IMMIGRANT REFUSALS OF LEBANESE DURING THE SAME

PERIOD.

3. SINCE WE STARTED KEEPING RECORDS SEVERAL WEEKS AGO OF LEBANESE INQUIRING ABOUT TION TO THE UNITED STATES THERE HAVE BEEN NINE INQUIRIES FROM LEBANESE AND IRAQIS WHO HAD INITIATED IMMIGRANT VISA CASES IN BEIRUT. WE ARE WAITING TO LEARN WHERE BEIRUT FILES HAVE BEEN SENT IN ORDER TO REQUEST THEIR TRANSFER TO THIS OFFICE. THERE HAVE BEEN A HALF-DOZEN PERSONAL AND TELEPHONE INQUIRIES REGARDING A RUMORED LEBANESE REFUGEE PROGRAM.

4. IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO ESTIMATE HOW MANY LEBANESE IN ENGLAND WOULD APPLY FOR REFUGEE STATUS. IF SUCH A PROGRAM WAS STARTED THE NUMBERS APPLYING MAY RUN ANYWHERE FROM DOZENS TO POSSIBLY HUNDREDS. IT IS UNLIKELY THAT THESE PERSONS WOULD BE TRUE "REFUGEES", IN THAT THEY WOULD ALL HAVE BEEN LEGALLY ADMITTED INTO ENGLAND, AND LIKELY TO BE FINANCIALLY WELL OFF. THEY MIGHT APPLY BECAUSE OF A PREFERENCE TO LIVE IN THE UNITED STATES, NOT BECAUSE OF ANY DESPERATE SITUATIONS.

5. AN EMBASSY OFFICER TELEPHONED THE LEBANON DESK OFFICER IN THE FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE AND RECEIVED MUCH OF THE SAME INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THE EMBASSY TELEGRAM UNDER REFERENCE. BECAUSE THE LEBANESE WHO ENTERED THE UNITED KINGDOM DURING THE PAST MONTHS CAME IN WITH MANY THOUSANDS OF OTHERS FROM THE MIDDLE EAST, IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO ASCERTAIN WITH ANY ACCURACY THE NUMBER OF LEBANESE FLEEING FROM LEBANON. THE BRITISH AUTHORITIES WITH WHOM WE HAVE COMMUNICATED ARE UNAWARE OF ANY PRESSURE FOR A REFUGEE PROGRAM IN ENGLAND AND THERE HAVE BEEN NO UNUSUAL NUMBER OF REQUESTS FOR ASYLEE STATUS.
ARMSTRONG UNQTE KISSINGER

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT, VISAS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 AUG 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE203893
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: SCA/VO:LVILLALOVOS
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760314-1289
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760846/aaaabnqw.tel
Line Count: 96
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN VO
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 STATE 190983
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <04 MAY 2004 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <26 AUG 2004 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LEBANESE REFUGEES
TAGS: SREF, CVIS, LE
To: ROME
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006